GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1409
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2005
FOREIGN TRADE POLICY
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Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the main features of the foreign trade policy announced recently;

(b) the areas this policy is likely to focus for generation of employment through enhanced exports;

(c) the extent to which it will generate employment during the current year;

(d) whether there will be loss of jobs due to increase in import; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

(a) The foreign trade policy spelt out a bold vision to double India`s share in world trade within five years, and to focus on the generation of additional employment in the process. Details of the Foreign Trade Policy are available at the website of Directorate General of Foreign Trade at http://dgft.delhi.nic.in. The copies of the document are available in the Parliament Library.

(b) The Foreign Trade Policy gives special thrust to employment generation specially in semi urban and rural areas. For this purpose it envisages special focus initiatives in the employment intensive areas of agricultural, handicrafts, handlooms, gems & jewellery and leather & footwear sectors. The specific facilities given to these sectors have been enumerated in chapter 1B of the Foreign Trade Policy (2004-09).

(c) A study commissioned by the Ministry indicated that exports generated an incremental direct employment of 10 lakh jobs in the year 2004-05, over the previous year.

(d) & (e): No, Sir.